[Mr. K. Madhava Kurup]

(*j*) No.
(*k*) Wooden plat-form.
(*l*) No. It is intended only for one line traffic.

The South Indian Railway Advisory Board.

341. *MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*) : (1) Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) when was the last sitting of the South Indian Railway Advisory Board ;

(*b*) the subjects discussed ;

(*c*) whether the Travancore Government nominee made any particular representation ; and

(*d*) if so, what it was ?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to place a copy of the proceedings of the Advisory Board, or at any rate the portion of it dealing with Travancore questions, on the table ?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMY AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) :

(1) (*a*) On 30th January 1937.

(*b*) (*c*) and (*d*) The member is referred to the answer to part (2) *infra*.

(2) An *extract from the minutes of the meeting relating to questions moved by the Travancore Member is placed on the table.

Transport of salt from Tamarakulam.

348 *MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the distance between Tamarakulam group of salt factories and Trivandrum by land route ;

(*b*) the cost of transporting by existing land route one bag containing two maunds of salt from Tamarakulam salt factory to Trivandrum ; and

(*c*) the cost of transporting the same quantity of salt by canal or backwaters for an equal distance ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) :

(*a*) 50 miles.

(*b*) It is reported that the rate for one bag may come to about 8 annas.

(*c*) The rate may not exceed two annas per bag.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*) : May I know the cost of transporting one bag of two maunds of salt, by sea ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : It varies from year to year and will depend on the rates quoted by the tenderers. Ordinarily, it may be taken to be as. 4 per bag.

* *Vide* Appendix I—page 1065.

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MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): If it can be transported for 4 as. by sea may I know why merchants transport by land routes at a cost of 8 as?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Government have nothing to do with that. That is for the merchants to look into.

Laying of water pipes along the Brigade Lane Road, Kunnukuzhi.

349. *MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the time taken to lay the water pipes along the Brigade Lane Road, Kunnukuzhi;

(*b*) the date on which the above work was started; and

(*c*) the number of water taps erected in the lane and the time taken to put them up?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) One month and eleven days for laying the water pipes and a further period of one month and thirteen days for testing, backfilling and restoring the road.

(*b*) 9-4-1111.

(*c*) Three. Of these two are in service now. The erection of fountains was taken up in 4/12 and completed in 5/12 except for the platform of one of them.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know the expenditure incurred for this work?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

Improved Main Central Road.

350 *MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they contemplate having an improved main central road from Cape Comorin to Ernakulam *via* Quilon and Mavelikara, and paving the same with cement concrete?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No.

Smuggling on the Northern Frontier.

351 *MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the present condition of the Illikkotta reserve on the northern frontier;

(*b*) how far it serves as a barrier against smugglers; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to protect the northern frontier with barbed wire fencing, to check smuggling?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) The bamboos in the Illikkotta reserve flowered and perished in 1102. Though attempts have been made to replant the area with fresh bamboo plants, they do not thrive.

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